

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION**  
Conrad Unit Office



STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

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FAX NUMBER (406) 278-7077

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CONRAD, MONTANA 59425-0961

March 11, 2019

To: All Interested Parties

The 2003 State Legislature passed statutes (77-2-361 through 367 MCA) authorizing the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to sell State School Trust Lands and utilize those funds to purchase replacement lands for the school trust through a process called Land Banking. The intent of the program is for the state to dispose of scattered tracts of land that generally do not have legal access, generate substantially less income for the trust than their relative value or are difficult for the DNRC to manage. The funds generated from sales are then used to purchase property that is blocked or contiguous to state land, has legal access, has potential for increased Trust revenue and consequently is more efficient to manage.

In 2005 the Department started accepting nominations from lessees and DNRC personnel for state tracts to be considered for sale under the program. Nominations were evaluated and the State Board of Land Commissioners prioritized parcels to sell. To date, the Department and the Board have sold 80,165 acres of Trust Land and purchased 98,228 acres of replacement lands. The tracts listed on the attached spreadsheet were recently nominated, evaluated, and are now being considered for sale.

We are currently conducting an analysis under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) of the impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed land sale. You have been identified by the DNRC to receive this scoping notice as a neighboring land owner, member of the negotiated rule making committee, trust beneficiary, local legislator, government agency and/or other interested party. The analysis is to be completed for all of the tracts under consideration prior to presenting a list to the Board for preliminary approval. If approval is received from the Board, the Department will then conduct appraisals to determine an estimated value and recommended minimum bid price for each tract proposed for sale. The list will then be brought back before the Board to establish the minimum acceptable bid for each tract and approval to proceed with the sale process.

By this letter, DNRC is requesting comments under MEPA regarding the possible sale of the attached tracts. Comments will be considered if received no later than April 19, 2019 and may be sent to:

DNRC - Conrad Unit Office  
PO Box 961  
Conrad, MT 59425  
Or by email at: [eneboe@mt.gov](mailto:eneboe@mt.gov)

Should you have further questions or need additional information, I can be contacted at (406)-278-7869.

Sincerely,

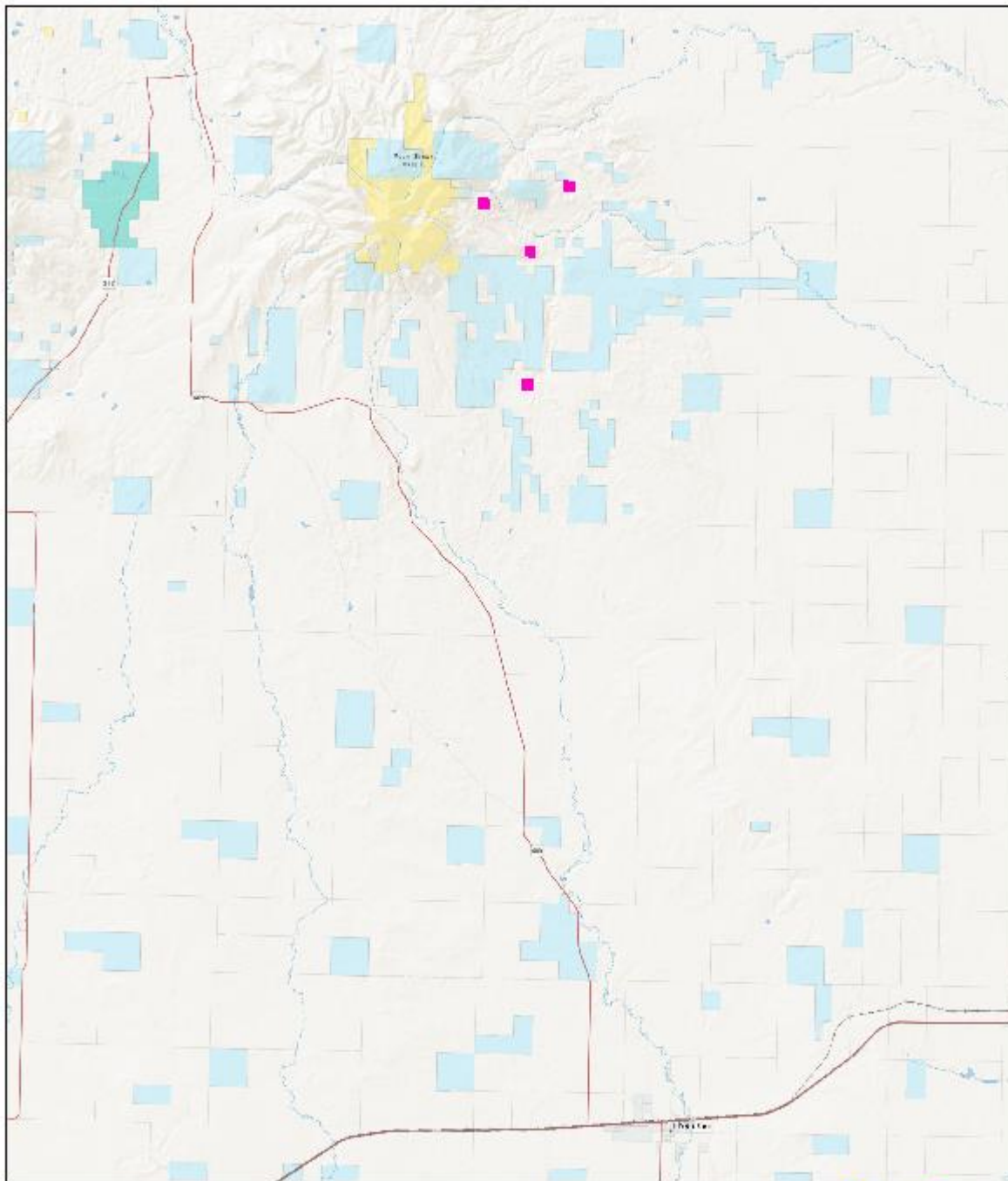
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erik Eneboe".

Erik Eneboe  
Conrad Unit Manager  
Central Land Office - DNRC

## LAND BANKING – PROPOSED TRACTS FOR SALE

| <b><u>Lease #</u></b> | <b><u>County</u></b> | <b><u>Portion</u></b> | <b><u>Section</u></b> | <b><u>T</u></b> | <b><u>R</u></b> | <b><u>Acres</u></b> | <b><u>Trust</u></b> | <b><u>Classification</u></b> | <b><u>Legal Access</u></b> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 4638                  | Liberty              | SE4SE4                | 27                    | 36N             | 5E              | 40.00               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
| 6510                  | Liberty              | NW4SE4                | 21                    | 36N             | 5E              | 40.00               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
| 10463                 | Liberty              | NE4NE4                | 23                    | 36N             | 5E              | 40.00               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 7827                  | Liberty              | SE4NE4                | 15                    | 35N             | 5E              | 40.00               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 7481                  | Pondera              | Lots 5, 6             | 6                     | 28N             | 8W              | 68.56               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 7481                  | Pondera              | SW4SE4                | 33                    | 29N             | 8W              | 40.00               | Common Schools      | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 7702                  | Teton                | SE4NE4                | 27                    | 23N             | 7W              | 40.00               | Capitol Buildings   | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 9248                  | Teton                | NE4SE4                | 24                    | 26N             | 7W              | 40.00               | Capitol Buildings   | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 9788                  | Teton                | SW4SW4                | 8                     | 27N             | 8W              | 40.00               | Capitol Buildings   | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 5842                  | Toole                | NW4NE4                | 30                    | 36N             | 4W              | 40.00               | Capitol Buildings   | Grazing                      | No                         |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                 |                     |                     |                              |                            |
| 10340                 | Toole                | SE4NW4                | 12                    | 34N             | 2W              | 40.00               | Capitol Buildings   | Grazing                      | No                         |

Montana DNRC Conrad Unit - Proposed Land Banking Parcels  
Chester Area - Liberty County

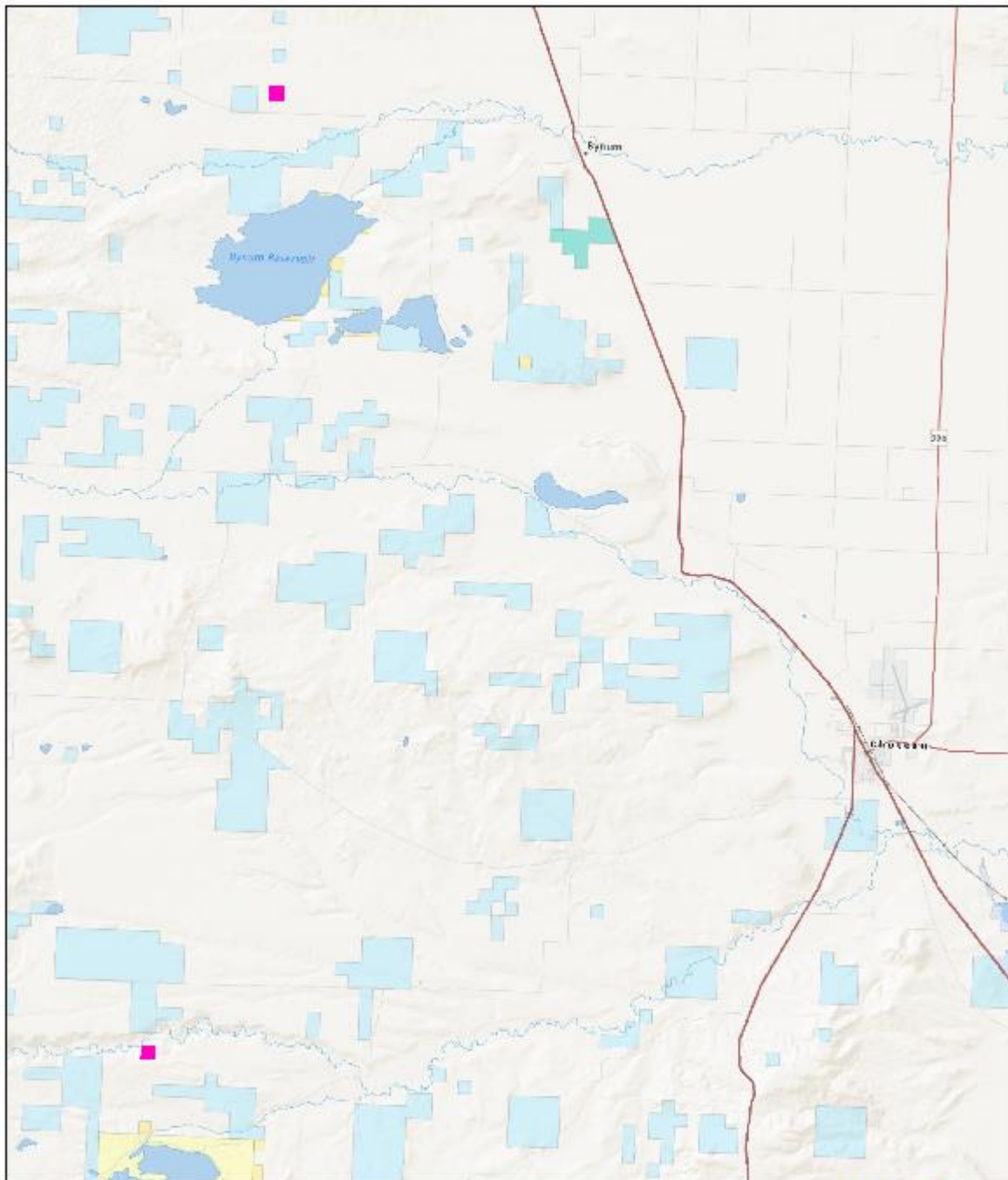


Miles 0 1 2 4 6 8

Proposed Parcels



Montana DNRC Conrad Unit - Proposed Land Banking Parcels  
Choteau Area - Teton County

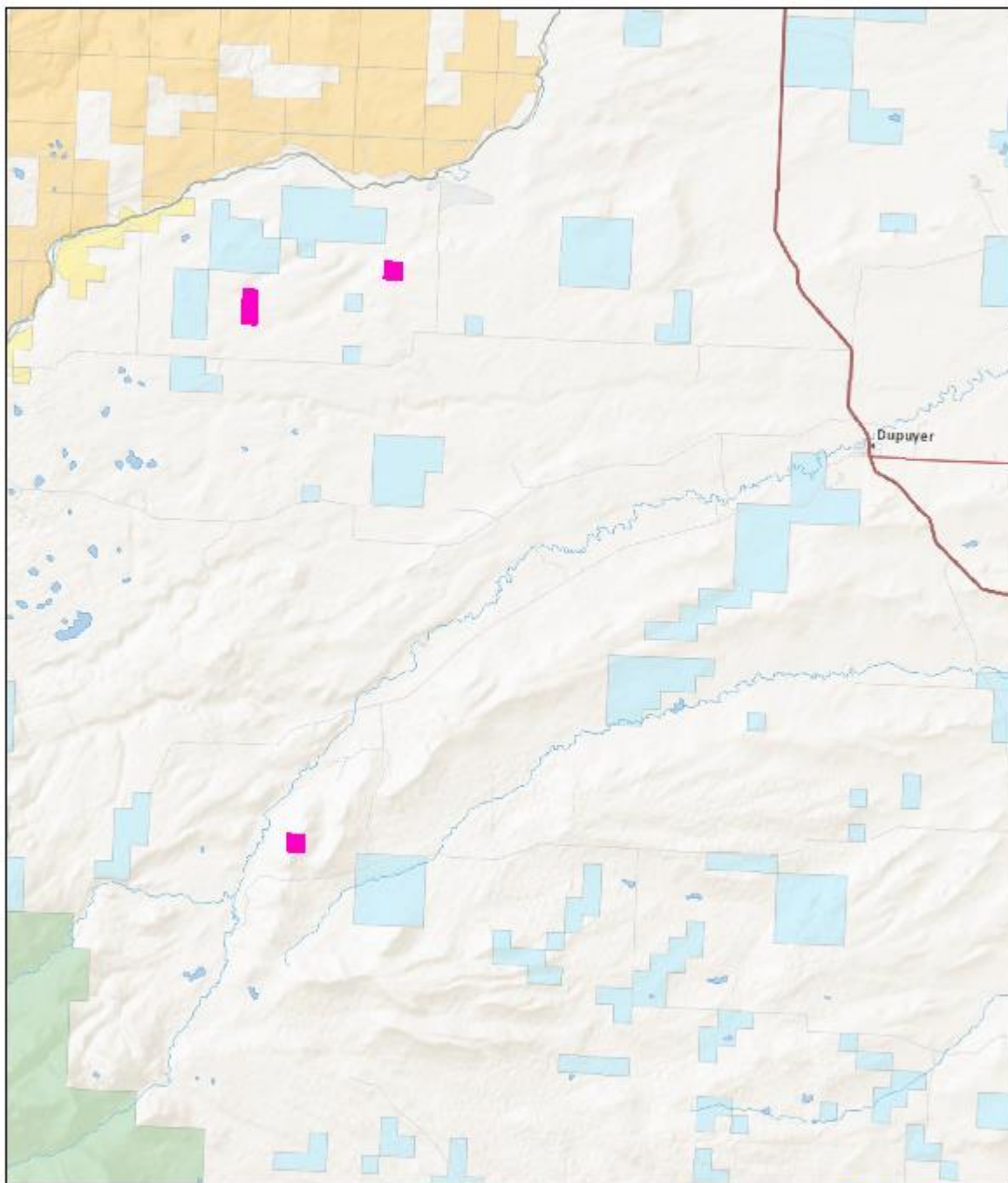


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Proposed Parcels



Montana DNRC Conrad Unit - Proposed Land Banking Parcels  
Dupuyer Area - Teton and Pondera Counties



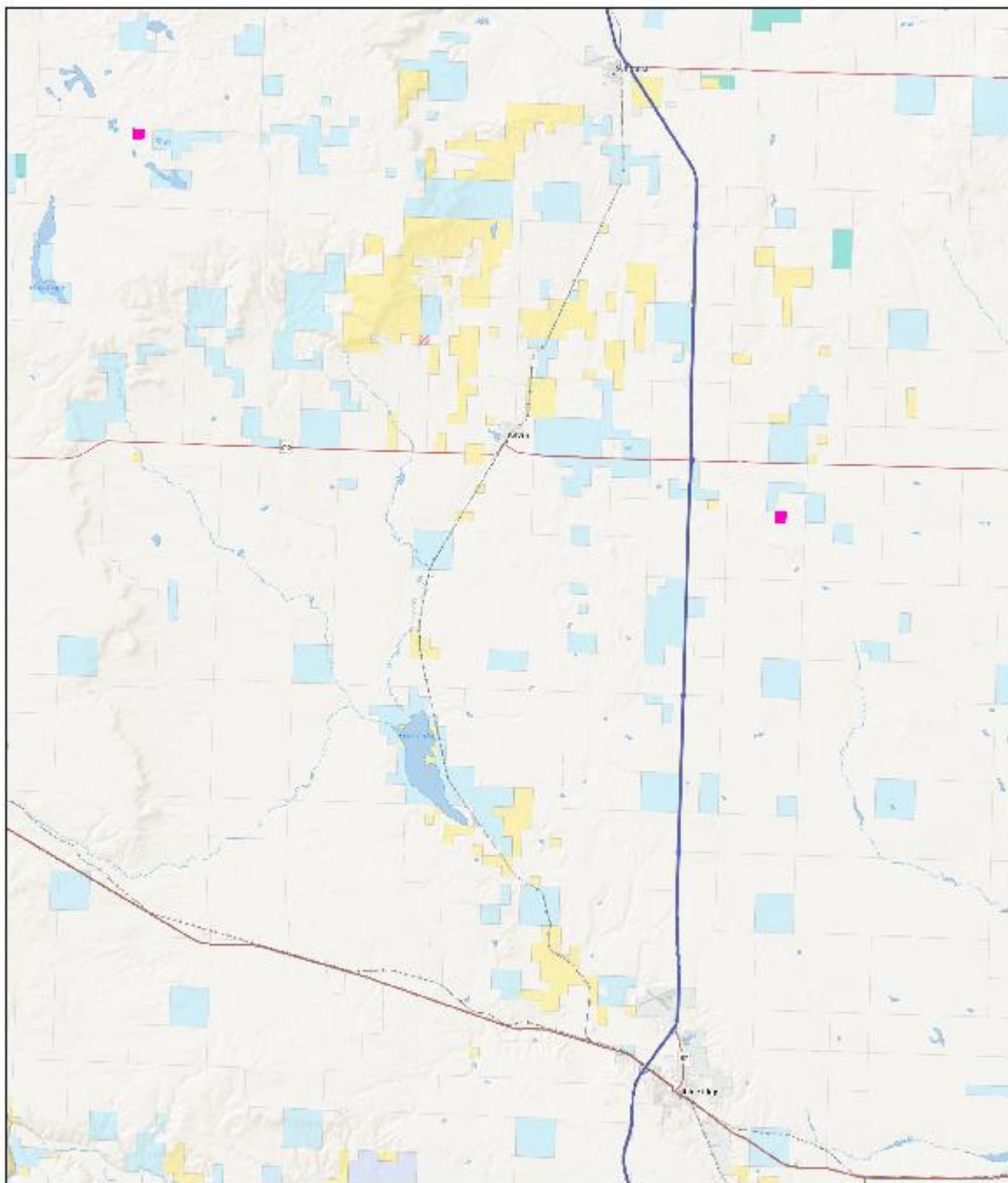
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Proposed Parcels





Montana DNRC Conrad Unit - Proposed Land Banking Parcels  
Shelby Area - Toole County



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Proposed Parcels

